

WHERE THE GAS MONEY IS GOING

Receivership Has Cost the Kansas Natural Gas \$137,000.

Amount Almost Equals Deficit in Operating Expenses.

AND HOW ABOUT MISSOURI

More Than Half the Product Sold in That State.

Nothing Said About Advance in Rates Over There.

Attorneys for the state and for gas consumers made it appear that the receivers for the Kansas Natural Gas company, in asking for a heavy increase in rates to consumers, are endeavoring to create an income which will in a short time put back in the pockets of the gas company stockholders every cent of their investment and leave them in possession of whatever property may then remain to the company free of any cost.

How soon the gas company stockholders are entitled to earn back the amount of their investment, and what allowance should be made for the uncertainties of the duration of a natural gas supply, are problems which burden the present deliberations of the utilities commissioners.

R. F. Higgins, city attorney of Kansas City, Kan., Fred Jackson, special counsel, and H. O. Caster, regular attorney for the utilities commission, took turns in probing the purposes of the calculations submitted by the gas company receivers. It was shown that the gas company proposed to create a revenue that would put back the company's entire investment within six years, leaving the stockholders in possession of pipe lines and other physical property whose value would depend entirely upon whether there was any gas left in the field at that time.

Auditor Hayes declared it highly improbable that the gas supply would be adequate to carry out even that program.

That the receivership has cost the Kansas Natural Gas the sum of \$137,000 in the past two years, and that nearly equal to the total deficit in operating expenses complained of, was shown. This amount was spent for receivers' fees and salaries, attorneys' expenses, and other expenses not given in detail but will be next week at the request of the utility commissioners.

Although the Kansas Natural Gas receivers are asking the Kansas utilities commission for authority to make a substantial increase in rates, there has not yet, so far as Auditor Hayes could tell the commission, been any request for similar authority in Missouri.

Hayes said, however, that unless a similar raise were made in Missouri the desired increase in Kansas would be useless.

The commission adjourned until Monday morning.

WHEAT OUTLOOK GOOD

(Continued from Page One.)

Damage ranges from 5 to 40 per cent. Ten per cent of the acreage in this section of Kansas reflects damage as high as forty per cent. Sixty per cent of the acreage is damaged 20 per cent, the remaining 20 per cent being damaged 10 per cent. In the other parts of Kansas, the damage ranges from nothing to 20 per cent.

"Of the total wheat acreage as reported last fall, 8,750,000 acres, our figures indicate that less than 1,000,000 acres will be abandoned or plowed up; damaged 40 per cent, 800,000 acres; damaged 20 per cent, 1,000,000 acres; damaged 10 per cent, 2,000,000 acres; in approximately 100 per cent condition, 4,000,000 acres.

Due to Volunteer Wheat.

"Many reports indicate that fields in which volunteer wheat was permitted to grow are badly infested with fly and bug, while adjacent fields, where some attention last fall was given to the extermination of volunteer wheat, and the burning or removal of old straw stacks, show a condition of 100 per cent.

"I do not believe that the professional crop killer is getting in his work, but there is no question that the wheat has in many sections been damaged.

"In the face of prevailing conditions, no one would be warranted in saying that the next two weeks will reveal, but with rather abundant large acreage and a large per cent of it at present being nearly in 100 per cent condition, there is justification for believing that the total yield for the state will rank second to that of last year.

"In Oklahoma there are approximately 4,000,000 acres of wheat, an increase of 60 per cent over the average of last year. In some parts of the wheat growing section there are reports of damage by rust, which is difficult to estimate, but for the particular acreage involved, it possibly represents 10 per cent. In the Blackwell territory there are reports of fly ravages, but from all the information at hand, it can safely be said that the acreage is not damaged from allcauses 10 per cent, and the state's field will be approximately 10 million to 12 million bushels, which is more than double the yield of any previous year in the history of the state except last year.

One of Mr. Koonz's correspondents is Senator George H. Hunter, who owns mills and elevators in Sumner county, and who is regarded as one of the best wheat men in the state. In Kansas, Senator Hunter says the condition is satisfactory, and that the present scare is unwarranted.

WILL GATES OPEN?

(Continued from Page One.)

of the money will be used to pay for horse races. The levy proposes an increase in taxes of 25 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation of property and will raise approximately \$21,000.

close at 7 o'clock this evening. In the country the polls opened at 7 o'clock this morning and will close at 6 o'clock.

A large vote is not expected in the country, but early indications were that a fair vote would be cast in the city.

Couldn't Hire Autos.

In response to a request from the Topeka Commercial club, Attorney General S. M. Brewster this morning gave an opinion, in which he ruled that the local boosters for the free gate to the state fair must hire any automobiles for pay to bring in voters to the polls. The practice of hiring carriages and autos to haul the lazy voter has been prohibited in cases where referendum propositions only are involved, just the same as if the names of candidates for office were on the ballot. There was no objection to friends of the proposition using their own automobiles and many of these have been in service today.

KING OF ITALY CALLS DEPUTIES

(Continued from Page One.)

crowd repeatedly and drove them back. Several persons were injured. An angry mob attacked the motor car of the German deputy, Erzhenger, smashing the windows. The mob pressed in about the limousine shouting.

Death to the German. To the frontier with the barbarian. The Erzhenger escaped by speeding through the crowd.

Erzhenger's reports regarding the action of the king as taken following the resignation of the Salandra ministry were circulated in Rome today. The king's action was reported to accept the resignation of Premier Salandra, but when the latter became insistent, called in Signor Marcora, president of the chamber of deputies, and asked him to organize a new cabinet.

Marcora Forms New Cabinet.

Rome, May 15.—Giuseppe Marcora, entrusted by King Victor Emmanuel with the task of forming a new cabinet to succeed the Salandra ministry, which insisted upon its resignations being accepted because it lacked the unanimous support of the country in supreme crisis, is a 64-year-old man, 74 years old. He had a wide experience in public life and in 1910 declined a request to organize a cabinet. He has since been in the parliament and has long been president of the chamber of deputies.

After receiving the king's request he called upon Signor Salandra, the former Premier. He then waited upon his majesty and reported progress in his efforts to get together all phases of public opinion. He already has assured himself of the support of Signor Rissotto, leader of the socialist reformers; Signor Zanino, radical leader, and Signor Farzillo, one of the foremost republicans. It is believed he will be sustained also by Signor Salandra and Signor Marcora, who assume an attitude of friendly neutrality.

Salandra is one of the most popular figures in Italy among the people. He was widely chosen as a member of parliament while driving to the chamber of deputies to confer with Signor Marcora. Soldiers and their officers joined the crowd, and the king's carriage was surrounded by a throng of people. Prince Scipione Borghese, head of one of the foremost families of Rome, indicated yesterday he favors war when he sent from his palace to Borghese square a large Italian flag to be carried at the head of the crowd which was wildly applauding Salandra.

Before his resignation was accepted Premier Salandra sent to all prefects in the kingdom a circular reminding them they are authorized if necessary to entrust the military authorities the protection of public order.

While no official statement has been made as to a possible solution of the grave problem the country faces, the president of the chamber of deputies, after further adjourned or the session of parliament closed. In the latter case it would be reassembled within three months with a speech from the throne. The possibility of a dissolution of the chamber undoubtedly has been contemplated if it is found to be in contempt of parliament, which does not represent the real will of the country. In this connection it is recalled that the grandfather of the present king, while engaged in war with Austria, dissolved the chamber three times in succession until he obtained the majority he desired.

Tribuna Denies Denunciation.

Rome, May 15.—The Tribune, in a special edition, denies the report Italy has denounced the triple alliance.

THE WEATHER RECORD.

Following are observations of the United States Weather Bureau for the twenty-four hours ending at 7 o'clock this morning:

Stations in Kansas.	High.	Low.	Rain.
Anthony	90	51	0
Coldwater	90	51	0
Delaware	90	51	0
Dodge City	90	51	0
Dresden	90	51	0
Empire	90	51	0
Fort Scott	90	51	0
Geary	90	51	0
Hanover	90	51	0
Hays	90	51	0
Holbrook	90	51	0
Independence	90	51	0
Lawrence	90	51	0
McPherson	90	51	0
Meriden	90	51	0
Nes City	90	51	0
Phillipsburg	90	51	0
Rockford	90	51	0
Sedan	90	51	0
TOPEKA	90	51	0
Wichita	90	51	0

Reports From Other States.

Amurillo, Tex.	84	50	0
Boston, Mass.	50	40	0
Buffalo, N. Y.	60	40	0
Calgary, Alb.	42	22	0
Chicago, Ill.	60	40	0
Cincinnati, Ohio	72	50	0
Corpus Christi, Tex.	82	70	0
Dallas, Tex.	82	70	0
Des Moines, Ia.	88	60	0
El Paso, Tex.	90	60	0
El Reno, Okla.	92	62	0
Galveston, Tex.	84	72	0
Houston, Tex.	84	72	0
Huron, S. D.	72	50	0
Jacksonville, Fla.	84	70	0
Kansas City, Mo.	90	60	0
Little Rock, Ark.	90	60	0
Los Angeles, Cal.	68	56	0
Madison, Minn.	50	40	0
New Orleans, La.	90	70	0
Omaha, Neb.	80	60	0
North Platte, Neb.	80	60	0
Oklahoma, Okla.	80	60	0
Phoenix, Ariz.	80	60	0
Pittsburg, Pa.	68	48	0
Portland, Me.	50	40	0
St. Louis, Mo.	88	72	0
Salt Lake, Utah	68	42	0
San Francisco, Cal.	68	42	0
Seattle, Wash.	58	44	0
Sheridan, Wyo.	68	44	0
Springfield, Ill.	68	44	0
Swift Current, Sas.	46	28	1.50
Union City, N. C.	68	44	0
Washington, D. C.	72	50	0
Winnepeg, Man.	70	50	0

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Adv.

LONDON APPLAUDS

Newspapers Commend Dignity and Firmness of Note.

Recalls Best Tradition of American Policy.

KAISER LEFT IN NO DOUBT

Daily News Sees Veiled Threat in Friendly Words.

Conscience of Humanity Makes Itself Audible, Says Times.

London, May 15.—All the newspapers commenting on the American note to Germany applaud the dignity and firmness with which the document is couched. The Daily News suggests that though it would be difficult after the official defense of the sinking of the Lusitania and the expressions of satisfaction of the German newspapers over the incident, the German government "must have a conscience."

"President Wilson's irony at its face value and declare that the submarine commander acted in excess of his orders." "There are no prizes for the sinking of the Lusitania and the expressions of satisfaction of the German newspapers over the incident, the German government 'must have a conscience.'"

"The first ten include: Lapp, 400; Groat, 388; Crawford, 388; Jackson, Cleveland, 340; Kavanaugh, Detroit, 330; McInnis, Philadelphia, 321; Lewis, Boston, 319; Turner, Cleveland, 316; Lajoie, Philadelphia, 314.

Maisel, of New York, with 19, has the most stolen bases.

Detroit, with 287 and Chicago, with 277, lead in run batting.

Undefeated pitchers of the American league who are credited with two or more victories are: Danks, Detroit, with 6; Fisher, New York, with 5; Benz, Chicago, 3, and Shaw, Washington, 2.

Fred Luderus, of Philadelphia, has displaced Groat, of Cincinnati, as leader of the Nationals. His average is .326 to Groat's .388. Then come Connolly, Boston, .386; Clark, Cincinnati, .384; Chicago, 368; J. Smith, Boston, .337; Sailer, Chicago, .337; Leach, Cincinnati, .333; Lobert, New York, .326; G. Burns, New York, .314; and Chicago, 314, and Williams, Chicago, .321 each.

Cincinnati leads in club batting, with .279, and Boston, with .273, is second. The Detroit Tigers, with eleven stolen bases, is leading the league. Pitchers setting the pace are Pierce, Chicago, with four victories; Schaefer, Cincinnati; Meadows, St. Louis; James, Boston, and Coombs, Brooklyn, with two wins and no defeats.

LIE, SAYS M'ADOO

Secretary Charges Exterior Motives in Riggs Bank Suit.

Says Plaintiff Seeks Shelter Under Judicial Forms.

Washington, May 15.—Secretary McAdoo and Comptroller Williams filed in the district court today an answer to the injunction suit brought by the Riggs National Bank against the Federal Reserve Bank.

Both officials presented long affidavits in which they declared that they were not conspiring to injure the bank; that their actions, set forth as ground for the bank's charge, were taken in the exercise of proper discretion and because of conditions in connection with its management.

McAdoo Makes Counter-Charge.

Secretary McAdoo in his affidavit makes this counter-charge: "I charge and aver the fact to be that my inclusion in the suit is due to ultra vires and improper motives and resort to solely for the purpose of thereby uttering and publishing grossly false and libelous statements under the protection of judicial forms and free from the legal accountability that would otherwise be involved."

Mr. Williams in his sworn statement says examination of the Riggs bank by his office disclosed violations of the national bank act; that it was not so much a commercial bank as one which lent much money on stock and bonds.

"The stand taken by the president is something more than a declaration of a national policy. Nothing less than a declaration of a national policy makes itself audible in his measured and incisive sentences. Germany finds herself clearly confronted with the demand to abandon her submarine warfare on shipping."

Courteous and Considerate.

"The American note to Germany, both in substance and expression, recalls the best traditions of American diplomacy. Courteous, and even considerate, in form, it can leave Wilhelmstrasse under no illusions as to the state of American feeling or the determination of the United States government. Nothing could be more vigorously or more persuasively expressed than the attitude of the United States toward the world of neutrals may well rejoice that the United States has at length spoken out so forcibly and to the point."

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NO WEATHER REPORTS

Final Order Cuts Out All Forecasts in England.

London, May 15.—No more weather forecasts are to be issued to the newspapers by the British meteorological bureau.

At the beginning of the war the weather report service was greatly curtailed on orders from the war office, which asserted that it was information highly valuable to the enemy.

A brief daily forecast, however, was continued. Ever since that time it has been used in collaboration with information collected at local centers.

MUCH MEAT FOR ALIES

Ten Million Pounds Bought in Chicago This Week.

Chicago, May 15.—Ten million pounds of canned meats were bought from Chicago packers by the British government this week, it was announced today. Armour & Co. had the bulk of the order. Shipments were begun at once.

The English also were large buyers of hams and other meats today.

FIGHTS WITH MURDERER

Missouri Sheriff Killed Escaped Convict Who Opens Fire on Him.

Poplar Bluffs, Mo., May 15.—William Wilson, who escaped from the county jail at Cairo, Ill., a year ago, was killed and Sheriff Kearney was wounded probably fatally in a revolver duel here Friday night.

The sheriff and his deputy unexpectedly came upon Wilson and Roy Lutes, who recently escaped from the Mount City jail, Kearney started toward Wilson with the remark, "I think you've got a gun on you."

The sheriff spoke Wilson drew a revolver and firing commenced from both sides.

Wilson and Lutes escaped from jail after the sheriff had been sentenced to death, Wilson for murder of Special Agent Logan of the Mobile & Ohio railroad, and Lutes for complicity in the Chicago-Lutes case, arrested Friday night. Three revolvers were found in Wilson's clothes.

Old Detroit Out to Head Off Jacques Fournier.

Luderus Leads National League Batters With .396 Average.

Chicago, Ill., May 15.—Veterans of the American league are assuming places among its leading batters, according to averages published here today.

Jacques Fournier, of Chicago, leads the league with .445, but Cobb, of Detroit, has attained second place in the past week, now batting .400.

The first ten include: Lapp, 400; Groat, 388; Crawford, 388; Jackson, Cleveland, 340; Kavanaugh, Detroit, 330; McInnis, Philadelphia, 321; Lewis, Boston, 319; Turner, Cleveland, 316; Lajoie, Philadelphia, 314.

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MUST SELL BOATS

Commerce Board Rules Against Petitioning Railroads.

Commission Enforces Prohibition of New Panama Act.

TO END LAKE LINES BY DEC. 1

Service Held Not in Interest of the Public.

Permission to Operate Would Prevent Competition.

Washington, May 15.—The application of the Pennsylvania, New York Central, Lehigh Valley and other railroads to retain ownership and continue operation of boat lines on the great lakes, despite the prohibition in behalf of the railroads since the interstate commerce commission.

All the railroads applying must give up their boats lines by December 1, 1915, view, however, of the fact that this is the first case involving extensive steamship properties under the new law which has been decided in behalf of the railroads.

The commission held that none of the lake line services maintained by the petitioning railroads is being operated in the interest of the public or is of advantage to the convenience or commerce of the people, "within the meaning of the Panama canal act, and that permission to allow their operation by railroads will prevent, exclude and reduce competition on the great lakes."

The decision is regarded as of great importance to all the ports on the lakes which are reached both by boat and railway lines. The fact they are reached by those agencies of transportation, the commission says, "establishes a case of competition existing between the owning railroad and its boat line."

DERNBURG TO QUIT.

(Continued from Page One.)

and items in event of a critical turn in relations with Germany would be the domestic economy of the United States. It has been repeatedly denied by the German embassy, as well as by Dr. Dernburg himself, that Dr. Dernburg had been asked to leave the country.

Very Busy Since War Began.

Dr. Dernburg was formerly colonial secretary in the German foreign office and has become prominently active in the German government since the outbreak of the war, officials here believe German-Americans attach official weight to his utterances.

Dr. Dernburg himself issued a statement last night declaring he had never discussed matters that had arisen diplomatically between the United States and Germany.

He made no comment on that, beyond pointing to Dr. Dernburg's utterances in Cleveland and New York recently, seeking to justify the attack on the Lusitania.

At the German embassy it was learned Dr. Dernburg had expressed the wish to leave the country. Eintracht subsequently it is plain the action was voluntary.

The question of his departure depends upon obtaining assurances from the British and French, through the mediation of the state department, for his immunity from detention on the high seas.

Dernburg Refuses to Talk.

New York, May 15.—Dr. Bernhard Dernburg declined today to discuss the statement from Washington that he would soon leave the country. Remaining secluded in his apartment here, he refused to see newspaper representatives. In answer to a note enclosing a copy of the dispatch he returned the reply: "No comments."

Sets a New Discus Record.

Wichita, Kan., May 15.—Kissick, of Morris Hopewell, broke a record of the Arkansas Valley High School Athletic association when he hurled the discus 123 feet, in the eleventh annual meet here today.

The record was set in the morning at 9:30 a. m. and was a record for the state. The record was set in the morning at 9:30 a. m. and was a record for the state.

Sale of Fruit Lands.

Denver, Col., May 15.—The sale of the choicest undeveloped fruit and wheat lands in Colorado were scheduled to go on sale in the capital here Monday before the state land board at about 8 a. m. The land lies in the Montezuma valley. They belong to the State Agricultural college.

TODAY'S MARKET REPORT.

Chicago, May 15.—WHEAT—Bearish crop reports from Kansas made wheat prices sharply lower early in the advance. Strength at the start was due to the question of the new wheat crop. The subsequent downturn here appeared to receive some additional impetus from the report that the new wheat crop was being planted in the state.

Opening prices, which ranged from 1/4 to 1/2 higher, was followed by a general decline to well below last night's level. Federal government advice to farmers not to over-harvest in plowing up fly-infested areas, and the demand for wheat, pronounced fall in values. Evening up, however, for the week-end, the market. The close was unsettled, it down to 3/4 up compared with last night.

CORN—Corn held relatively steady. What changes took place appeared to result from the fluctuations of wheat. The market after opening was fairly steady, but underwent a slight sag all around. Near the end of the day corn followed wheat's grade. The close was firm at 1/4 to 1/2 above last night.

OATS—Hoisting sales by ash warehouses and demand was fairly moderate.

PROVISIONS—Higher prices for hogs gave strength to provisions. Offerings were limited, especially of pork.

Kansas City Grain Market.

(The range of prices for grain futures on the Chicago Board of Trade as reported by Thos. J. Myers, Broker, Columbia Bldg.)

Close—Open High Low Today's.

WHEAT—July, 121 1/2, 121 1/2, 121 1/2,